Doubling of Railway Track in Uttar Pradesh

†2154. SHRI ABU ASIM A2MI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal of doubling the Lucknow-Gorakhpur-Bhatni-Varanasi railway track in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted for this purpose;

(c) if so, the details of the survey conducted;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) by when doubling of Lucknow-Gorakhpur-Bhatni-Varanasi railway sections in Uttar Pradesh is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (e) There is no proposal for the doubling of entire line between Lucknow and Varanasi *via* Gorakhpur, Bhatni. The doubling work on this section has been taken up in patches. The patch doubling between Lucknow-Barabanki, Burhwal-Gonda and Gorakhpur-Domingarh sections has already been completed. Doubling of Gonda-Babhanan, Domingarh-Sahjanwa-Munderwa sections have been taken up. Survey on balance section between Lucknow and Bhatni have also been taken up.

For Bhatni-Varanasi section, survey for doubling has not been taken up in view of present traffic scenario.

Safety related Vacancies in Railways

2155. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways had undertaken a massive drive to fill the safety related vacancies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Railways had also decided to provide training to safety personnel for new techniques of railway operation and safety; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.